

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Ninth Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### **Residents of Ninth Norfolk Representative District**

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (295) reside in the Ninth Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (56) of Ninth Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 74.9% of admissions from the Ninth Norfolk Representative District were male and 25% were female.
- Over 53.6% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 89% of admissions were white non-Latino, 3.8% were black non-Latino, 3.8% were Latino, 0.3% were Asians, and 2% were other racial categories.
- 64.8% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 17% were married, and 12.2% reported not to be married now.
- 26.4% of admissions had less than high school education, 45.3% completed high school, and 28.2% had more than high school education.
- 42.8% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 9.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 8.7% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Ninth Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Ninth Norfolk Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	258	215	57	55	28	37	24
<b>FY '96</b>	279	245	87	59	35	45	25
<b>FY '97</b>	350	298	98	65	29	59	34
<b>FY '98</b>	323	265	88	79	37	60	39
<b>FY '99</b>	344	293	88	66	36	57	39
<b>FY '00</b>	285	231	68	65	35	54	39
<b>FY '01</b>	295	219	80	52	19	82	55

- Since peaking in FY 1997, residents of Ninth Norfolk Representative District reported a leveling off in alcohol use, but an increase in heroin use.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use more than doubled, and marijuana use increased by 40%, while crack use decreased by 47%.

**Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Ninth Norfolk Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	55.7 %	25.4%	6.6%	6.6%	1.0%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While marijuana as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol and cocaine as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and crack was lower within your District.